A True and Faithful Relation

OF

The Taking of PETER IESSERSON, AND Francis Walker.

Who were fuſpected of Murthering *DEBORAH SMITH* of *Sigleſthorn* in *East-Reding* in *York-ſhire*, and was Related in the *Gazett* on *Thurſday Laſt*.

With the Manner how this Murther was found out.

And an accompt of their Taking at their Lodging at the ſign of the Shepherd and Dog, it being a Conſtables houſe at *Cukolds-point*, neer *Redriff*, on Fryday morning by Six a Clock.

With their Examination before Iuſtice *Lintſ*, Marſhal of the *Kings-bench*, who Committed them to the *Marſhalſes*, under the care of Mr. *Chriſtopher Loman*.

Printed for *George King*. 1675.

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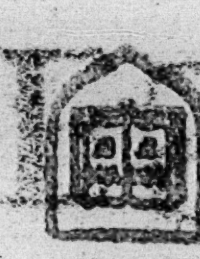

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A Long and Exhaustive Account

A True and Faithful

RELATION

Of the taking of *Peter Jefferson*, and *Francis Walker*, &c.

WE may truly affirm, that the World is in her Wane, when murther is become the practice of Christians, which indeed is the proper office of the Devil, and how frequently those woful accidents happen; we cannot think of, but with much

horror, nor remember, but with grief of mind, and compaſſion of heart: for, is it not to make our ſelves wilful Traitors and Rebels to God, to violate his Divine Majeſty in ſpoiling his true Image and reſemblance? Yea, is it not the high way of Hell, but that this age of ours produceth ſuch Monſters of Nature, read we but the enſuing Hiſtory, and it will inform us of the ſhedding of innocent blood.

In the Town of *Eaſt-Reding* in the County of *Yorkſhire*, lately lived one *Deborah Smith*, born of good honeſt Parents: they having brought her up well, at the age of Eighteen or twenty years, thinks it fit for her to go to ſervice, that ſhe might learn ſomething more then they could teach her, that thereby ſhe might be fitter to make an honeſt mans Wife: accordingly to ſervice ſhe goes, and her behaviour is ſo ſweet that ſhe is well liked of by Maſter and Miſtris, and hath the good word of all the Neighbours: In this Family ſhe lived many years, and got money: Now neer her Maſter lived three perſons. *Viz. William Rains*, *Peter Jeſſerſon*, and *Francis Walker*; *William Rains* was a Husband Man Worked at Threaſhing and other labouring work, for the Conſtable of the ſame Town, *Peter Jeſſerſon* and *Francis Walker* were of his acquaintance, perſons but poor, and therefore none fit he thought to know his mind and reſolution, he having known this *Deborah Smith* to dwell in a good ſervice many years, and hearing that ſhe had ſaved a conſiderale ſum of money, contrives how

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he may be Master of it ; the Devil that Enemy of mans soul soon acquaints his servant with a way how he might get what she had, and it might never be known, he being acquainted with her, and her Master and Mistris waits for an opportunity that he might take away her life , that so he might take away what she had , her Master and Mistris being gone out , he , and 'tis suspected *Peter Jesserson* and *Francis Walker* were with him ; and consenters to and actors of this murther , as followeth : He desired her to go into the Barn with him that he might see what Corn his Master had laid by for him to thrash , which he told her he had promised to thrash for him the next day : she readily consenting took the Key of the barn door and went with him, being come he now resolves to put this his wicked desire in practice , and thereunto begins to ask her what she did with all her money , telling he knew she could not chuse but have a good deal by her , she being saving , and living in such a good place : this he did to purge out of her what she had , and adding that he knew of one that would make her a good Husband : and if she had or her friends would make her worth fifty pound , he was sure he would have her , she having lived to the age of 35 years was almost out of hope whether she should ever be married , quickly told him that she had saved thirty pound , and that she had it to show in her Trunk in her Chamber, and that

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ſhe did not queſtion but her father would make it up fifty pound : *Rains* having now got from her what he deſired to know, begins to put his Deviliſh deſign into Execution, hath her to the farther ſide of the Barn, there draws a Knife and barbarouſly murthers her, and buries her at one corner of the Barn, then he, and as is ſuſpected *Jeſſerſon* and *Walker*, went directly where this money lay and took it away, and all flye to *Hull*, and there bargain with *George Revet* maſter of the *Adventure*, they their ſtaid ſeveral Days for a wind; but the wind did not ſerve from them : ſo they left their Cloaths aboard and went over the Humber, intending (as they ſaid) to go to London by land.

Now the manner of this murthers diſcovery as I am informed was thus : Her Maſter and Miſtris comming home finding no Maid, and the Doors all open, were afraid they had been robbed : So ſearch the Houſe, find nothing unlocked but the maids Trunck, and ſhe not to be found ; they make diligent ſearch after her but cannot find her, nor hear of her ; not many days after going into the Barn to remove ſome ſtraw at the end ; there they find this murthered body, which was cut in a moſt gaſhful manner, great care is now taken to find out the murtherers ; Now it was well known that theſe three perſons went away together about the ſame time as this Maid was miſſed, and then a hue and cry was ſent after them,

and

and notice was given to the Lord Mayor of London that he might make a ſtrict inquiery after them, in, and about the City : His Honour was pleaſed to put it into the *Gazett* on Thurſday : Now this *Peter Feſſerſon* and *Francis Walker* were come to *London*, and had taken up their lodging at the *Shepheard* and his *Dog* at *Cuckolds-Point*, the Landlord of the houſe being Conſtable, ſaw the *Gazett* a Thurſday Night, and finding theſe Two perſons by the Diſcription in the *Gazett* to be the ſame, they confeſſing themſelves they came out of *Yorkſhire* : In the morning takes them in their Bed, and carrieth them before Juſtice *Linton* Marſhal of the *Kings-bench*, after Examination, being found to be the perſons before mentioned, committed them to the *Marſhalſes*, to the care of Mr. *Chriſtopher Loman*; where they are now in Durance : they will confeſs nothing, but ſay they knew not the *Maid*, nor never ſaw her, and that *William Reins* did not come out of the Town with them, neither were they any way confederate with him, but ſay, they come away for Debt, and ſeveral of their Neighbours knew of their coming away.

Their Cloaths is ſeaſed upon on Board the ſaid *George Revels* Veſſel, lying at *Porters Key*.

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